



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 19.48 Thursday, November 28, 2013 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren FREE

## BHS Marching Band, Bladez owner in Thanksgiving Parade

Detroit's 87<sup>th</sup>- annual Thanksgiving Day Parade will feature the Belleville High School Marching Band as it steps off just before 9 a.m. from its new starting point at Woodward and Kirby.

The whole, three-mile-long parade will be shown live on WDIV Channel 4 in Detroit and from 10 to 11 a.m. on NBC nationwide. WJR 760 AM will also broadcast the parade live.

A million parade-watchers are expected to watch along the route as the 60 parade units wind their way down Woodward Avenue and past Campus Martius where the parade will end at noon.

Grand Marshal of the Parade is former Detroit Tigers manager, Jim Leyland.

Also in Thursday's parade will be Louise Fincher, owner of Bladez hair salon in Belleville, who will be dressed as a Munchkin and, with her granddaughter, marching with the Wizard of Oz float.

The Parade Company invites Fincher to participate each year to honor the work she does to feed and clothe those living on the street in Detroit's Cass Corridor.

"I'll be the Munchkin with the big smile," said Fincher.



The students for the month of November at Keystone Charter Academy in Sumpter Township were chosen for demonstrating gratitude. From left, in front, are: Alexia Lewis, Brianna Thick, Marissa Jackson, Hannah Fortune, Lois Ureche, Haiven Bielski, Jayden Crites, Tyler Taraszkiewicz, and Gabe Rister. In the middle row, from left, are: Trinity Dozier, Jonathon Robinson, Braeden Davis, Cassidy Shafer, Ethan Delaney, Madison Yocum, Camryn Fornwalt, Julie Lewis, and Emily Wisniewski. In the back row, from left, are: Shelby Ostrewich, Ashtyn Popson, Delanie Sielaff, MacDennis Ikpeama, Faith Good, Jordan Johnson, Jason Ureche, Roman Kenyon, and Matthew Cox.

## Keystone OKs contract amendment on Core Curriculum

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

"I don't know if this is something this board wants to fall on its sword over," said Keystone Academy attorney LaRae G. Munk at the Nov. 14 meeting of the school board as board members discussed their apprehensions over the Core Curriculum.

"If we don't adopt this, we can be looking for a charter," Munk said.

Munk said every ten years educators look at education and decide changes are needed, so she is sure the Core Curriculum they don't like will go away.

"Thank God it's only a moving target," Munk said, noting, "We change every ten

years."

Munk said, "We liked what we saw eight years ago," referring to National Heritage Academies. "If they still have their core values, OK. If not, we need to get a different management company."

The board was told if they didn't pass the motion required by Bay Mills Community College which issued the Keystone charter, the college could pull the charter. Then, Keystone would have to shut down for a year before getting a charter from some other entity.

After much discussion, the board voted unanimously to "Amend the charter contract with Bay Mills Community College to accept the new educational goals presented by Bay Mills as target goals for the Academy and to amend the curriculum to include changes necessary to prepare students for the new assessments and standards in Language Arts and Math."

In September, when the board first

considered the request by Bay Mills to adopt the Core Curriculum resolution, it balked and decided to ask for a representative of National Heritage Academies to come out and talk to them about it.

On Nov. 14, Jennifer Perkins, an NHA representative, gave a presentation on Common Core, assuring Keystone board members that "Common Core is the destination and how we get there is up to the schools."

She said there is a fear that the government or the state will tell schools what to do.

She said as far as informational text, it is supposed to be 55% in the eighth grade and 70% in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. But great literature and poetry still will be taught, Perkins said. She said the percentages are for the whole day, including science.

She stressed the control is still left to the teachers, to the boards.

(continued on page 8)

## 12 volunteers patrolled Belleville when storm put out the lights

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

On the evening of Sunday, Nov. 17, a big storm with strong winds put out the electricity in the City of Belleville and the city was very dark.

Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor said 12 volunteers patrolled the city as a "Blackout Team" and allayed the fears of

(continued on page 8)

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## District Library learns about bonds, hires Spicer for preliminaries

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

Paul Stauder of Stauder Bausch of Ann Arbor gave a presentation to the Belleville Area District Library Board about bonds during its regular meeting Nov. 12.

His firm specializes in library bonds.

Then, it unanimously approved the recommendation by its architect Dan Whisler to hire Spicer Engineers of Belleville to provide a topographic and boundary survey of the DNR-owned lake site and adjacent Spencer property.

It was noted the cost will probably come out of the library's fund balance.

These are the sites selected for construction of a new library and Whisler needs information before he can prepare architectural drawings that shows where everything will be placed on the property.

Drawings are needed to show to the DNR which still owns the property, so it can approve the concept for fishing along the lake and join together in seeking grant money for the project.

Drawings also are needed to use in an informational campaign to influence voters to approve the funding to build it in the August 2014 election.

Whisler and Library Director Deb Green brought a drawing of a proposed library on this site to a Sumpter Township meeting at least six years ago, but now specifics are needed.

Whisler said he solicited proposals and three responded: Midwestern Consulting Inc. (\$17,500) and SmithGroupJJR (\$18,000), both of Ann Arbor, and Spicer (\$10,350, hourly, not to exceed), which has an office at the Century 21 building on Main Street in Belleville.

Spicer said it could do the work in 4-5 weeks, but it omitted tree identification requested because it didn't have a tree person on staff. It could hire someone to do the trees, however, for additional cost.

These are the trees 12" in diameter and greater at breast height. Clusters of trees of smaller diameter also should be entered.

Included in the survey will be curbs, utility poles and underground lines, gas and water lines, sanitary and storm sewers, catch basins and manholes, legal descriptions, zoning, regulations, curb cuts 100 feet in either direction, extension of watershed into property, location of flood plains from FEMA FIRM map, information by local municipality for site plan approvals, details of intersection of Belleville and Quirk to design a signalized intersection, information on 12" existing sanitary sewer running east along Belleville Road from Lake Villa Drive, shoreline information for possible design of alternate sidewalk path along the shoreline, etc.

The go-ahead on the work was given to



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman  
Spicer surveyors were on the job last week around the DNR property.

Spicer last week.

Board member John Juriga asked if it is common to spend money on land you don't own yet and Whisler said it was.

Whisler said developers spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on proposed sites.

"Is it common? Absolutely," Whisler said, adding, "It is doing your due diligence..."

Juriga asked if in the 30 years the DNR has had the property if it didn't already have a topographical map.

Barbara Miller asked from the audience about the demands of the DNR and how far along are they in obtaining the property.

Library attorney John Day said they have the approval of the work committee to acquire the property, but they need a drawing. They have to come up with the topography and where to put things.

"We basically have land control with the commitment to sell," Day said.

He said they have the letter and supplement communication from Rob Corbin with a price of \$395,000 plus 10% transaction fee for the DNR property.

Treasurer Gutierrez said the board would like a report from attorney Day every month about what has occurred and not depend on people from the audience asking questions.

Day said he and the DNR agreed not to meet until they have a drawing. Right now they do not have a full design. He said they need to have decks within six feet of the water's surface for fishing.

Gutierrez asked if the DNR will come back and say this is what they want for the agreement?

Day replied, "They are not going to design our waterfront for us."

Whisler said there will be no physical possession of the property until the bond passes. He said he has an idea of what they want for fishing access, which is similar to what the Metroparks have.

"Do we have to come up with a design

they approve?" asked board member Michael Boelter.

"The DNR will provide feedback on the drawings," Whisler said. "We're not likely to get grant funding for ideas and talk. The strategy with them is to partner to get a grant... We have enough to take a stab at it."

"And to do that you need a topographical survey," said board chairwoman Mary Jane Dawson.

Whisler said one long boardwalk six feet above the water would do it, but it's probably better served to have fishing access in several locations.

Day said they are not going to share anything with the DNR that the library hasn't seen.

"It's your project," he said.

Day said the bank is 10-13 feet above the water and there is significant work to be done to traverse that area with ramps.

Miller said, "The fisher folk were thrown off the causeways because they were so messy. Does the library clean their restrooms?"

Whisler said, "I think, yes. There are waste baskets to empty."

"Someone still has to empty them," Miller said.

### Proposed Bond

Paul Stauder gave a long presentation at the beginning of the two-hour meeting on the various options the board has for bonds and millages to finance the bonds.

Stauder explained there is the District Library Financing Act #265 of 1988 that explains what can be done.

Kalamazoo went out for bonds on the back of an operating millage. Ann Arbor had two or three like that, saved the money and then built, he said.

"Some think a millage request is easier than a bond," he said. "It is. But, if the tax suffers because of reduced property values you still have to pay the bonds."

Stauder said he will assist in the structure of the bond and move it out to the market, schedule the bond sale, and assist in the preparation of initial bond language.

He also will assist in getting credit ratings for the bond, so the investors can decide. He said his firm uses Moody's and Standard & Poor for an opinion on the credit rating of the issue. The agencies give an opinion of the risk, the ability to repay the bonds. They look at trends (growth or decline), finances and the size of the community.

"As a library, you are a single-purpose entity, which they may view as non-essential," he said. "This tends to affect the rating, as well..."

"If you levy a tax, you can pay it," he said.

Stauder said there are different ways to approach this, using simple terms:

- Vote a millage for operation and construction and make it adequate;
- Vote a bond for the building project and a separate millage with unlimited funding; and

• Ask for permission to issue bonds for the size of the project and a second question of shall the library millage be increased to have funds to pay for it?

Clarifying the situation, Stauder said limited millage is like a person borrowing money and paying for it out of his income.

Unlimited millage can increase your revenue to pay for bonds, which has a lower rate and is treated more favorably.

The board seemed in favor of an unlimited millage to pay the bonds.

Treasurer Elaine Gutierrez asked how the library pays him, as bond consultant.

Stauder said he is paid when and if the bond passes and he is compensated from the bond. He said the bond also will be the costs and other fees for the bond, including credit ratings and legal fees.

He said he will put together projections of the millage and repayment and if they need a half mill more to operate a new facility, they could put that in.

But it would be a limited term, up to 20 years, and the millage would have to be renewed, if not in perpetuity.

He gave some examples: for a 20 year, \$17.5 million bond, one mill would be needed. For a 25-year, \$17.5 million bond, .8 mill would be needed.

He said he used for the proposed interest rate for the bonds ½ point or more than the market is paying now to allow for market fluctuations.

The bonds would require semi-annual payments and would be tax-exempt, so an investor doesn't pay federal tax on the interest.

He said it would take six months to put the election together and vote after getting

(continued on page 12)



# O P I N I O N S

## Editorial

### Thanksgiving Day starts off the magic holiday season

There are those who put up their Christmas trees the day after Thanksgiving to start their holiday season that runs through Christmas and New Year's days.

Those who waited until now and want to start their gift shopping used to go out with the crowds on Black Friday. This year, some will start even earlier, right on Thanksgiving Day, since some of the big stores will be open on Thanksgiving this year.

There are other holidays to celebrate this Christmas season: Hanukkah starts Nov. 27 and Kwanzaa runs Dec. 26-Jan. 1.

Whatever you're celebrating and whether you are shopping for presents or just trying to get your health insurance reinstated, this is a magic time of the year.

There are bright colors, twinkling lights, icicles and snowmen (real and fake), lots of music, lots of secrets, church services to underline the Reason for the Season, and smiles.

There is also the opportunity to help those not so fortunate this year, with donations to Goodfellows, the Community Pantry, the Salvation Army bell-ringers, and other local helping organizations.

The City of Belleville is planning its annual Winter Fest for Dec. 7, which will have a nighttime parade, fireworks, a skating rink, ice sculptures, music, carriage rides, movies at the library, and Christmas Trees in the museum.

What fun! It's the holidays.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

I couldn't get through to Sumpter Township Hall last week when I was trying to figure how long they were out of power. Sometimes, the power outages are longer in Sumpter than Belleville or Van Buren Township.

On Wednesday, a Sumpter Township employee told me the power that went off Sunday was back on when they came in to work Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m.

In Belleville power came back on between 1:30 and 3 p.m. on Monday. Some portions of VBT were without power longer than that, but not into Tuesday night.

Sumpter Township wins the dubious honor of having its lights out the longest in the tri-community.

A lady in Belleville said after phoning DTE at about 5:30 p.m. Sunday to report she had lost power, she received a reply Tuesday night around 9. It was a recorded message saying: "Your recent outage was caused by a blown fuse near Sumpter Road and Industrial Park Drive, affecting 576 DTE customers."

On Saturday, we got a phone message from DTE that said last Sunday evening's storm was the largest storm experienced this year in Southeastern Michigan, leaving more than 300,000 without power in our service territory. Wind gusts were up to 70 mph causing extensive tree damage and left 1,500 downed wires.

DTE said it was able to get assistance from crews in other parts of Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., Missouri and Colorado. Every available DTE crew was on 16 hour shifts around the clock, he said. And then apologized for any inconveniences.

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



\*\*\*

On Friday, Nov. 22, the President ordered American flags to be put at half-staff across the country in honor of President John F. Kennedy, who was assassinated 50 years ago.

I got a call with a trivia question. In American history, there were three Presidents assassinated, he said. Do you know who the other two are?

Of course, President Abraham Lincoln was easy. Hmm. The third?

William McKinley, 25th President of the United States, was fatally wounded on Sept. 6, 1901 when a man shot him with a concealed handgun while the President was shaking hands with the public.

But, then I decided to Google this subject and found there actually were four presidents assassinated. President William Garfield was shot in 1881.

\*\*\*

Last time Belleville's Christmas Parade was held on Dec. 7, which is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Bruder Landscaping and Miss Ginger's gift shop turned a pontoon boat into a World War II battleship. Very appropriate.

At the meetings I've been attending, I've heard a lot about grass skirts that will be in the parade, but nothing about Pearl Harbor. It will be interesting to see what Saturday's parade brings.

\*\*\*

I was sorry to hear of the Sunday death of

Frances Harris at the age of 90. We always delivered a paper to her at her home early Thursday mornings since she enjoyed the *Independent*. She was friends with my late mother and they talked about herbs and dried materials and other things.

I used to take my mom over to see her and then I would wander off to see her husband Albert (who everyone called "Grandpa Harris") in his woodshop. He made tons of wooden toys for children and school classes would come to tour his woodshop.

Albert, who died in 2002, served on the VBT Downtown Development Authority back when our paper was brand new. Nice people. I still have some of his wooden toys on my windowsills.

I remember him telling me about how his whole family, early settlers of VBT, was made up of builders. Jackie Garner, our office manager, said she remembers Mr. Harris putting in her cement sidewalks when they moved to town and they are the best sidewalks she's ever had.

\*\*\*

Best wishes to all for a happy Thanksgiving. If you are out and around, buy a Goodfellows newspaper from those police and fire fighters that will be out on the street corners on Friday and Saturday.



www.bellevilleareaindependent.com  
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**BELLEVILLE - AREA**

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To the Editor:

Words cannot express how grateful I am to the Augusta, Ypsilanti, Van Buren and Sumpter Township Fire Departments. On Sunday, Nov. 17, we suffered a devastating fire at 5 Star Market and Benito's Pizza in Sumpter Township.

Chief Brown and his crew did an outstanding job of containing the fire and keeping the damage from becoming a total loss. I have always admired the dedication and selflessness of first-responders, but I now have a deeper sense of how dangerous their jobs really can be.

I would also like to thank all of the caring people who have called or stopped me to offer their kind words; it has been quite humbling. This just reaffirms why we chose this community to raise a family and to do business.

For more than 28 years we have called Belleville home and I can't think of a better place to be. We have a few challenging months ahead of us, but we will be back better than ever.

Thanks again for all of your continued loyalty and support. We will see you soon. Respectfully,  
Roy Acho and Family  
Belleville

will support small business and keep the dollars in our community.

Mr. Mouse's Sock Drive will end Dec. 6 -- so drop off your new children and adult socks at Trinity Episcopal Church on Belleville Road.

Thanks to all who have given new socks to warm feet. The socks are going to First Step.

Mr. Mouse and Marian Caldwell  
Van Buren Township

**Marti's Gift Gallery  
open house big success**

To the Editor:

Marti's Gift Gallery 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House was a huge success. Thanks to all who were able to join us. We appreciate your business and support very, very much.

Our new holiday hours are: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Closed on Monday.

Congratulations to the winners of our prize drawings: Becky Henning, Charlene Wagner, Leticia Maly, Bonnie Ellis, Barb Conway, Hedy Ricciardo, Mary Talaga, Marge Preston, Laurie Smith, and Debra Huber.

Thanks, again!

Marti and Tracey  
Marti's Gift Gallery  
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To the Editor:

This is a wonderful, fun time of the year. Many craft and bazaar shows to attend with beautiful handmade and homemade items. Kudos to all who attended last Saturday's show in Romulus.

So look around you and shop locally. You

**VBT calling for needy  
residents needing rehab**

To the Editor:

Needy residents who have had a difficult time during Michigan's economic downturn or on a fixed income may be eligible for housing rehabilitation assistance. Van Buren Township is calling for a new round of applicants for its Housing Rehab Assistance Program.

Eligible work on the homes includes new roofs, new windows, new furnaces, Americans with Disability Act compatibility, and repairs to dangerous electrical and mechanical systems.

The program is a 0% deferred loan which is payable when the home is sold, rented, or refinanced. A county lien is placed on the property for the entire loan amount. No credit checks or equity required.

Van Buren Housing Rehab Assistance Program is funded with Federal HUD Community Development Block Grant funds to assist low and moderate income residents with paying for needed housing rehabilitation work. To qualify, residents must meet the Federal income requirements listed below.

Income Limits (subject to change): 1-person family, \$36,050; 2-person family, \$41,200; 3-person family, \$46,350; 4-person family, \$51,500; 5-person family, \$55,650; 6-person family, \$59,750; 7-

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## More Letters

(continued from page 5)

person family, \$63,900; and 8-person family, \$68,000.

Income eligibility is determined by the total Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for all household members over 18 years of age.

Applicants must own and occupy their own homes and the property on which it sits, meet all federal income eligibility requirements. All Township and county taxes, utilities, water bills, and mortgage payments must be paid to date on the property.

Applications are available from the Developmental Services Counter at Van Buren Township Hall or by downloading the form from <http://www.vanburen-mi.org/Development/CDBGHousingRehabApp.pdf>.

Mobile homes that do not sit on land owned by the applicant are not eligible for loan program.

Van Buren Township will prescreen all applicants upon receipt of completed applications. Applications are accepted on a rolling first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

Arthur Mullen

Van Buren Township Planning and Economic Development Director  
(734) 699-8913

"Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you ARE, you AREN'T."

-- Margaret Thatcher  
British Prime Minister, 1925-2013



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Morning Worship - 11:00am  
Monday: Kids Awana - 6:30 to 8:30pm (Sept. through March)  
Wednesday: House of Prayer - 7:00pm • Children/Teen/College & Career - 7:00pm  
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# Obituaries



Jean B. Schell

## JEAN B. SCHELL

(June 18, 1922 – November 15, 2013)

Jean B. Schell, 91, of Missoula, Montana, passed away on Friday, November 15, 2013 at St. Patrick Hospital.

She was born June 18, 1922 in Ripley, New York, to Walter and Florence Burgess. She attended Orlando Business College in Florida and began a lifelong career in the banking industry.

On November 27, 1942 she married the love of her life, Charles (Charlie) Schell in Ripley, New York. She moved to Belleville, Michigan, in 1947 and lived there until moving to Missoula in 2011.

She was preceded in death by her husband Charles Will and her son Charles Walter.

Survivors include two daughters, Karen (Craig) Stabnau of Missoula and Barbara Schell of Missoula and one daughter-in-law, Laurie Schell, of Tecumseh, Michigan. She is also survived by her sister Laura Lick of Ripley, New York, and grandchildren Eros Biox in Los Angeles; Jared (Katie) Stabnau in Kodiak, Alaska; Travis (Jessie) Stabnau of Missoula; Crystal (Josh) Parker in Adrian, Michigan; Melissa Schell in Tecumseh, Michigan; and Charles Schell in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Jean is also survived by great grandchildren Logan Stabnau, Hadley Stabnau, Alaina Parker, and Miranda Parker.

Arrangements are being handled by Garden City Funeral Home. For more information or to offer a condolence to the Schell family, visit [www.missoulafuneralhomes.com](http://www.missoulafuneralhomes.com).



Marilyn Irene Stilwell

## MARILYN IRENE STILWELL

(July 16, 1937 - November 21, 2013)

Marilyn Irene Stilwell, age 76, passed away Thursday, November 21, 2013 at her home in Belleville, MI. She was born July 16, 1937 in Detroit, MI, daughter of the late Agnes and Fred Truxal.

Marilyn enjoyed painting and teaching ceramics, gardening, bird-watching, all animals, cooking, bowling, hockey, loved going to baseball games and she was a huge Tigers fan. She was a member of the River of Life church and a loyal friend to all.

She is survived by her husband George Samuel Stilwell of Belleville, MI, a daughter Margorie (Davis) Corley of Oklahoma, and a son Dale Davis of Oklahoma, and also 7 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son Duane Davis in 2008.

Viewing took place on Saturday, November 23, 2013 from 10 AM – 1 PM at David C. Brown Temporary Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, with a Funeral Service at 1:00 PM.

Interment was in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI.

Memorials may be made to the family & would be appreciated.

Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure.



Ronald T. Wheeler

## RONALD T. WHEELER

(September 28, 1943 - November 23, 2013)

Ronald Tracey Wheeler, age 70, passed away Saturday, November 23, 2013 in Van Buren Township. He was born September 28, 1943 in Butler, PA, son of the late Louis and Helen (Wright) Wheeler.

He is survived by his companion of 17 years Priscilla Tollefson of Milan, MI; two children Tim Wheeler of Belleville, MI, and Terri Bauer of Grass Lake, MI; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; four sisters Denise Pustay of Taylor, MI, Jacqueline Bell of Iron Mountain, MI, Carole Syer of Allen Park MI, and Donna Malnor of Southgate, MI.

Ronald was a Belleville resident for 50 years before relocating to Milan. He was a broad-spectrum horse farrier by trade, who had a love for tropical fish and chess. He enjoyed growing flowers in his greenhouse, especially orchids., Visitation was Monday, November 25, 2013 from 1-8 PM and Tuesday, November 26, 2013 from 11 AM-1 PM, followed by a 1 PM Celebration of Life service at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family. Please sign his on-line guestbook and share a memory for his family to cherish at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## FRANCES M. HARRIS

(January 3, 1923 - November 24, 2013)

Frances Mae Harris, age 90, long-time resident of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, November 24, 2013 at her home. She was born January 3, 1923 in Providence, Rhode Island, daughter of Solomon and Abby (Conway) Edmonds.

She was a member of the Belleville Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Harris started working for Wayne County in 1968 and was there for over 20 years. She loved gardening, growing herbs and drying flowers and plants. She was also an avid reader.

Survived by four children Suzanne Harris of Belleville, Kathleen (Michael) Knight of Ypsilanti, MI, Cindy Harris of Belleville and Nancy Harris of Southfield, MI; daughter-in-law Pam Harris of California; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a sister Nancy Dixon of Scottsdale, AZ; also her beloved cat, Sam.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, husband Albert R. Harris on February 11, 2002, son Allan Harris on April 22, 2010, two brothers Leroy & Robert Edmonds, also a sister Ann Cameron.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Interment of cremains will be in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

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# Keystone

(continued from page 1)

Perkins said the curriculum team at the NHA Service Center took time to compare the NHA and the Common Core and she presented a thick sheaf of documents comparing "Depth of Knowledge."

She said 80% of NHA is already fitting into Common Core and they only have to change 20%.

Perkins said schools and teachers will decide what to read. She stressed that the Common Core standards are not a curriculum, but shows how to teach it.

Board President Vesta Losen asked who was vetting the textbooks.

Perkins said NHA had an entire team and other professionals studying the texts produced by Pearson and McGraw Hill.

Losen said Pearson has the most Common Core texts. She asked if they actually read the textbooks and Perkins said they had.

Losen said she was not concerned about how lessons were taught, but what the children are going to learn. She said she had concerns. She noted Common Core was a product of Race to the Top, a product of No Child Left Behind, which are all failures.

Munk said Keystone was not the only school that hasn't signed the amendment.

The Bay Mills representative said Keystone is #8 of its 42 schools academically.

He said Keystone's fall test scores are as good as at the end of the last school year, so everything he sees is above the school's trajectory.

In other business at the Nov. 14 meeting,

the board:

- Heard Plante Moran had issued a clean opinion on the 2012-13 audit report;

- Learned there are 784 students enrolled and 291 on the waiting list;

- Learned NHA is looking at expanding Keystone Academy by adding a classroom for each grade. Keystone has the most evenly distributed wait lists of the NHA schools, so this is being considered. They just plan to add on to the present building. "We have the wait list, the demand is there," said Chris Caulk of NHA. Bay Mills has a maximum for its charter of 804 students so there will have to be a discussion with Bay Mills. This will happen next summer, if it happens at all, Caulk said, with it ready for the 2015-16 school year;

- Heard Losen say the \$2,000 that Keystone got for its Eagle Award from NHA for being in the top 5% of the schools academically has been deposited, but she would like to see it used as a college scholarship of some kind for former Keystone students. She suggested awarding it to a student who grew in moral focus and was outstanding in moral focus in the community, since the top academic students get bombarded with scholarships. She said they could add next year's Eagle Award to the scholarship money. She asked board members to think about it.

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# Patrol

(continued from page 1)

those sitting in the dark.

Chief Taylor said the Blackout Team volunteers were from the Tri-Community Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Belleville Police Reserves.

CERT volunteers were: Ed Smith, Kim Tindall, Steven Jones, Phil Roberts, Jennifer Blackburn, and Mick Smith.

Police Reserve volunteers were Captain Steve Sexton, Corporal Dorn (Fred) Kirschweg, Chad Kirschweg, Victor Karvelis, Matt Raich, and Dennis Mowbray.

At the City Council meeting, which was postponed from Monday, Nov. 18, to Wednesday, Nov. 20, because of the blackout, Mayor Kerreen Conley said, "It was very dark."

## Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Now through Saturday, Dec. 28** – The Belleville Area Museum is presenting its Festival of Holiday Trees. The museum is open Tuesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. and Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.

- **Friday, Nov. 29** – Free Friday Movie begins at 7 p.m. at the Friends Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road at Bemis

in Ypsilanti. This week: "Bullied" and "A Story Where 2 Worlds Come Together" in Real 3D. Info: (734) 482-5074

- **Sunday, Dec. 1** – A brief ceremony called Bugles Across America honors soldiers fighting now and veterans of past wars at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Monument in Horizon Park on High Street in Belleville.

- **Sunday, Dec. 1** – Free Country and Bluegrass music from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Van Buren Senior Center. Information: Hugh, 485-7241, or Lynette, 699-8918.

- **Friday, Dec. 6** – Free Friday Movie begins at 7 p.m. at the Friends Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road at Bemis in Ypsilanti. This week: "Veggie Tales: Merry Larry and the True Light of Christmas" and "Silver Bells." Info: (734) 482-5074

- **Saturday, Dec. 7** – There's a big Holiday Arts & Crafts Show at the Van Buren Township Community Center, 46425 Tyler Road, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- **Saturday, Dec. 7** – Santa will be collecting toys for Toys for Tots from 10 a.m. to noon at Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, then will go to Canton Public Library from 2 to 4 p.m. Natalie Mosher, who is running for State Representative on the Democratic ticket in 2014, and her Marine husband, Bob, are sponsoring the collection. There will be candy canes and hot chocolate for the little ones.

- **Saturday, Dec. 7** – Winterfest activities all day in Belleville. Lighted parade at 6 p.m. has an Hawaiian Christmas theme, followed by fireworks over the lake from the Denton Road Bridge.



## They're reading the Independent everywhere

B.J. Pendleton of Sumpter Township reads her favorite paper, the *Independent*, in front of her house in Zephyrhills, Florida – while enjoying the warmth.

You are invited to submit a photo of someone reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions.

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# Sumpter man tumbles down steps as he tries to escape from police

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Dahkota James Morrow, 21, of Sumpter Township practically jumped into a police car just before his arrest on Nov. 14.

Sumpter Township Police Detective John Toth said a resident returned to his Texas Street home for a minute to drop off an item before heading out to eat with

a friend, when he noticed the door to his home was ajar.

He told police he entered and found a man inside his home, disconnecting his TV. He grabbed a skateboard and held the intruder captive, yelling out to his friend to call 911.

When he heard Sumpter Police arriving, the homeowner stepped out of the way and the intruder made a dash

for the door, running out onto the deck, tripping, and falling down the steps, landing right in front of the Sumpter police car which Officer Beth Egerer had just stopped next to the deck.

Det. Toth said Morrow fell face down and needed medical attention. Officer Egerer had no trouble taking him into custody.

Morrow is charged with Home Invasion 2 and is labeled an habitual offender. His preliminary exam will be at 9 a.m., Nov. 27, at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court in Romulus.

On Sept. 20, 2011, Morrow was arrested for Malicious Destruction of Fire or Police Property and pled guilty. He was sentenced

to probation. After probation violations, he was re-sentenced, this time to six months in the Wayne County Jail starting June 27, 2012. As of Nov. 20, 2013, he has more than \$1,000 in fines still due from that case.

## Wayne Co. turkey drive raises money for food baskets to help families

On Nov. 19, Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano helped hand out free turkeys at the county's annual pre-Thanksgiving event for deserving families.

Hundreds of families in Wayne County will be able to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner, thanks to donations from Wayne County employees.

The Wayne County Employee Turkey Drive started in mid-September and concluded in mid-November. The drive raised close to \$3,000 which was used to provide turkeys and food baskets to nearly 300 families throughout Wayne County.

"Even with the financial challenges of the County and its effect on their own pay, our employees were able to help some less-fortunate citizens enjoy Thanksgiving," Ficano said.

"We hope our turkey and food basket donations will enhance Thanksgiving for some of our residents."

Ficano was on hand when the first wave of the turkeys and food baskets were distributed on Tuesday, Nov. 19. Just over 20 people gathered at the Wayne County Senior Services office in the Kay Beard Building, in Westland, to receive their turkeys and food, including a large family from Belleville.

A number of social service organizations, including Detroit Goodfellows and the United Way, helped Wayne County organizers identify the recipient families. The receiving families are from Detroit, Downriver and Western Wayne County.

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NIU Photo

Marissa Hawley

## Marissa Hawley named a 'Most Valuable' NIU volleyball player

DUNBAR, Wisconsin -- Marissa Hawley of Van Buren Township shared the "Most Valuable Contribution" award with teammate Hanna Cole at Northland International University's season-ending women's volleyball awards program.

Hawley, 20, a second-year player who graduated from Belleville High School in 2011, sat out last season. The 5'9" junior played as a middle hitter and was often outsized.

Hawley was the team's best scorer on the net. She led the Pioneers in kills and aces.

NIU finished the season with a 21-9 overall record and fourth in the always tough Midwest Region of the NCCAA-Division 2.

Hawley also captured a first team all-region spot.

At BHS Hawley played four years of volleyball and four years of soccer. She is in her third year at NIU working towards a bachelor's degree in Biblical Counseling. She plans to earn a master's degree in psychology and in the future to counsel teenagers or women in prison facilities.

Her mother is Brenda Kurtz of Van Buren Township.

*Some of this information is courtesy of the Iron Mountain Daily News and is printed with its permission.*

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**9502 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP**  
**LOTS TO LOVE!** 5+ acre brick ranch offering 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, finished basement with large living room and bar. Paved street and 2 huge pole barns. Possible re-zoning to commercial use. It's clean and neat with new carpet and fresh paint. This one shows great! **\$239,500**

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### GREAT LIVING!



**15685 BROOKSIDE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP**  
**CHARM YOU CAN LIVE IN!** Stunning colonial in a best neighborhood featuring a kitchen with a breakfast area, 4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 bathrooms, large unfinished basement, central air and more. Large family room and the large master bedroom has separate tub and shower. Private yard backs up to woods. A true reflection of good taste! **\$225,000.**

### SUPER CLEAN!



**50667 HURON RIVER DRIVE, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP**  
**COTTAGE APPEAL PLUS!** This home can only be described as adorable and in ultra move in condition. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths and extra clean with 1,116 sq ft. Large sunroom overlooks an open rear yard with detached garage, storage building, .62 acres and more **\$100,000.**

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## Festival of Holiday Trees

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**Dec 21** 7:30pm Belleville Community Band  
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Independent photo by Bob Mytych

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting grand opening celebration Friday for Edible Arrangements, which recently opened on Belleville Road in the Murray's Plaza. Attending the event were chamber director Karen LaBelle, owners Noor Qarana and Brian Mansoor, 34th District Court Judge David Parrot, Van Buren Township Supervisor Linda Combs, VBT Clerk Leon Wright, Chamber members Randy Brown and Janet Manley, and neighboring business employees from AT&T and Leo's Coney Island.

## Sumpter Twp. ZBA grants sign variance to Benito's Pizza shop

By Rosemary K. Oztman

Independent Editor

A variance request for a sign above the roof line at the Benito's store at 51255 Willis Road was approved after a 10-minute discussion at the Nov. 21 meeting of the Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals.

Before the meeting started, Roy Acho, owner of Benito's Pizza and the Five Star Market next door, told details of the Nov. 17 fire that damaged the roof and trusses of the market and caused smoke and water damage to the market and water damage to the pizzeria.

He had been renovating the pizzeria, to make it into a sit-down dining area and has been approved locally for a liquor license and is working his way through the state Liquor Control Commission paperwork.

He had hoped to open the new pizzeria the second week in December, but that was before the fire.

He said his request to the ZBA was to put a new sign above the doorway to the dining area and put another sign, which he has in storage, over the doorway to the Five Star Market. He said the hair salon, next to the pizzeria, might want to put up a sign, too.

Acho said he would like to put the signs 24 inches just above the roofline, so rain can flow under it to the gutter.

Randy Lynch, the township's ordinance officer, said the present sign location is a potential hazard for customers who could hit their heads on it. He said placing it above the roof line would make it safer.

Acho said he realizes the new ordinances recently approved by the township were created by planning consultants from Troy

or Ann Arbor and it might be OK for those areas, but the more-rural area has different needs.

Virginia Belinski made the motion to grant the variance and Sandra Todd seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Deputy Clerk Esther Hurst, who took minutes of the meeting, said Acho had one year to put up the signs.

### Five Star Market Fire

Acho said he hadn't had five days off in a row in 25 years and that day was the fifth day since the fire. He was uncomfortable.

He said his biggest concern was his 17 employees. He said he has insurance, so the building will be taken care of, but he was concerned about his employees. He said he told them to file for unemployment and he hoped to call them back in three to four months.

"The least amount of damage is to the pizzeria, so we can open that first," Acho told the ZBA.

He said the roof has to be replaced and new trusses put in. He said eight employees were in the store at the time of the fire and he is very glad no one was injured.

Acho said it is wonderful to live in a small town.

"Everywhere I go, I get hugs," he said, adding his store furnishes some food for the Lincoln Consolidated Schools and he got a call from the school offering to send over athletes to help clean up for him.

Acho said the fire department has determined it was not arson, but officials are still trying to determine if it was a neon sign or lightning or something else that caused the fire.

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# Library Board

(continued from page 3)

the cost of the project. After the vote it will take two months to market and offer the bonds and then two weeks to complete.

Green said the bond language needs to be to the county 84 days before the election.

Secretary Joy Cichewicz said the information for the ballot is needed by mid April, so the board should plan on approving it at its April 8 meeting, so it will be ready by the first of May.

“You’ll want real numbers available at that point to educate the public,” Stauder said.

“If we put the bond and operating questions on the same ballot and if one doesn’t pass... what do we do?” Cichewicz asked.

Stauder recommended they get a bond attorney to talk to them.

Whisler asked if the Detroit bankruptcy is impacting library bonds across the state and Stauder said, “Not currently. For six months it did, but now it’s settled down.”

Whisler also asked about taking into account the interest earned from the bond money. Stauder said it used to be a very significant amount, but now it is very nominal.

Whisler said the library will get the money two months after the election, but the major costs are a year and a half out, so they actually will earn money. But, if you earn too much, you have to give it back.

But, for an \$18 million project, you could borrow only \$17.1 million.

Stauder said if it is approved in the August election, the library will get the money in October. He said banks, mutual funds, and insurance companies usually invest in library bonds. He said libraries are his firm’s specialty.

Whisler said they have to work together to determine what amount this community is likely to support.

He said Stauder has a millage calculator a person use to plug in his home value, income, and other particulars to educate the public on how much they will pay.

In other business at the Nov. 12 meeting, the board:

- Agreed to contact Conrad Welsing of Belleville, a retired Detroit Library official who helped pass their millage and has

volunteered to help pass the district library millage; and

- Approved the job evaluation report on Director Green, as presented by Personnel Committee chairman Michael Boelter, who said only five of the seven board members participated. The evaluation was done by individual members doing scores on paper, with 6 being the top score, and Green getting an average score of about 5.4, with only the final results presented. They also extended her contract for one year. They offered a raise of 2.5%, which she declined, saying to put it in the building fund.

## Pet of the Week

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## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2013

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent: None. Others in attendance: DPW Director Taylor, Planning and Economic Development Director Mullen, Secretary Cline and an audience of eighteen (18).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the agenda as amended. To remove New Business Item #2 “Consider authorizing the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the proposed Consent Judgment with Victoria Park, LLC for completion of Victoria Park subdivision.” Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Minutes November 4, 2013; Closed Session Minutes November 4, 2013; Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 5, 2013; Special Work Study Minutes November 6, 2013; 2014 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule; 2014 Holiday Schedule; Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation Municipal (SMART) fiscal year 2014 Municipal Credit Contract; Voucher List of November 19, 2013.] as presented. Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Rezoning Ordinance 11-5-13 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, by rezoning parcel V125-83-086-99-0002-000, also known as 45109 S. I-94 Service Drive, from R-1B (Single Family Residential) to C-1 (General Business). Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, McClanahan, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstained: None. Carried.

\*(A copy of Rezoning Ordinance 11-05-13 follows the minutes. Copies may also be obtained in the Clerk’s Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve easement acquisition at 12249 Ryznar Drive in the amount of \$14,000, as presented. Carried

Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to approve Resolution 2013-20 to be submitted with the SAW (Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater) Grant application to the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, as presented. Carried.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve lease agreement between Van Buren Charter Township and Wayne Disposal, Inc. and to

authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve awarding Beck Ball Field Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding improvements (phase 1 contract) to Sole Building for new dugouts in the amount of \$111,775; Davenport Brothers for new fencing Field #7 in the amount of \$23,038; and Superior Play for playground in amount of \$52,621.09, as presented. Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Supervisor Combs announced the following Public Notices: Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees Notice of Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. during the Board of Trustees regular meeting in the Board Room at Van Buren Township Hall to discuss the 2013 Amended General Fund Budget, 2014 Proposed General Fund Budget and Special Revenue Funds: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA), Landfill Fund, Lohr Road Project Special Assessment District, Belleville Area Museum, 911 Service Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund and State Forfeiture Fund. Also, the Van Buren Charter Township Board of Trustees request for Proposals from interested parties to sub-lease its youth baseball/softball fields at the Beck Road ball diamonds for the 2014 season. Please complete the Form of Interest in the Recreation Department by or before 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2013. Candidates will participate in a formal panel interview on Monday, November 25, 2013, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Denton Room at Van Buren Charter Township Hall.

Clerk Wright announced the Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** Comments were made from 7:18 p.m. to 7:53 p.m. by the audience and Board members regarding the following topics: Township Budgets; Board Rules of Conduct regarding Audience participation; Revenues; Visteon bonds, Landfill Fund Revenue; Van Buren Township tax rates; Wayne County tax rates; Budget process; property values; Cobblestone Ridge Planned Residential Development (PRD); forfeiture properties; blight; Cobblestone Ridge performance bonds; Cobblestone Ridge Developer; request for a response to residents regarding complaints in Cobblestone Ridge Development.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leon Wright, Township Clerk  
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor  
Publish: November 28, 2013

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# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
REZONING ORDINANCE 11-05-2013

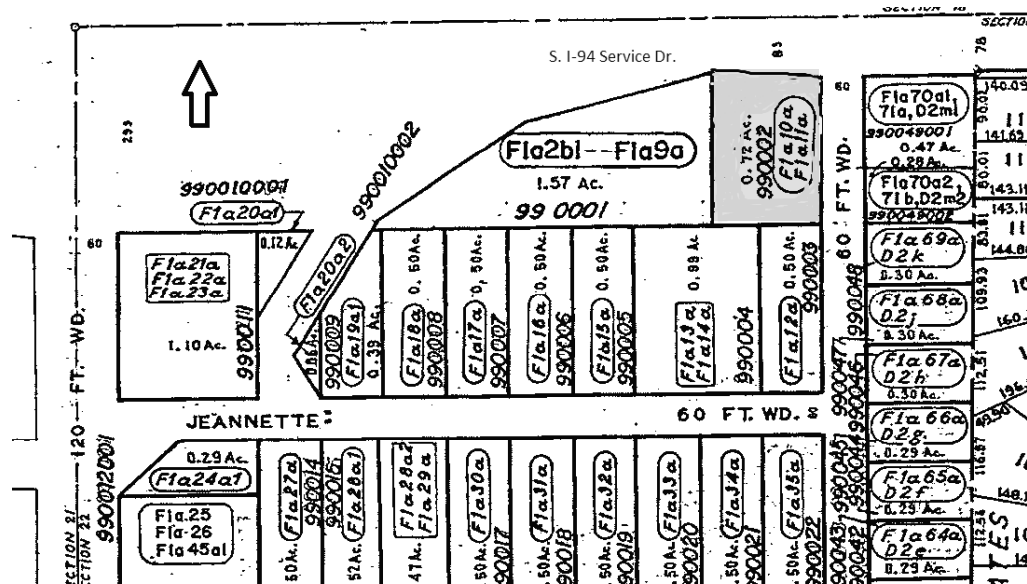
Second reading for adoption.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ZONING ORDINANCE 06-02-92, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

The Charter Township of Van Buren Ordains:

## SECTION 1. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The Zoning Map in connection with the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance shall be amended as follows:



### Ordinance No. 11-05-2013

A request to amend the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, to amend the zoning map by rezoning approximately .72 acres of land consisting of parcel V-125-83-086-99-0002-000 from R-1B (Single Family Residential) all C-1 (General Business).

Legal Description of Property:

, .72 acres.

This property is located at the southwestern corner S. I-94 Service Drive at Dewitt Road.

## SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

In the event any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or word of this ordinance is deemed invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion deemed severable and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

## SECTION 3. REPEALER.

Any and all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

## SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect immediately after adoption and publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.

YEAS: Miller, McClanahan, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs.  
NAYS: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days of passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Leon Wright, Clerk

Linda Combs, Supervisor

Publish: November 28, 2013



## Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 22, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm showing present: Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm & Swinson. Excused absence: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, & Trustee P. Morgan. Also present Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 9 residents.

**3. Agenda:** Motion by Bates supported by Swinson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only**

**5. Minutes:**

**A.** Motion by Bates, supported by Hamm to approve minutes of the regular board meeting September 24, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

**B.** Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to accept minutes of the parks & recreation September 18, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Warrants:** Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to approve warrants totaling \$88,823.73. Roll call vote: Yea: J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, & Swinson. Nay: None. Absent: Vawters, Hoffman, & P. Morgan. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Parks & Recreation:** Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to reappoint parks & recreation members till October 2016 are as follows: Drusilla Allen, Margaret Rochon, Kevin Rochon, Becky LaPalme and Danny Jones. And to approve parks & recreation report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. Attorney:** Motion by Swinson, supported by Hamm to approve the Western Wayne Mutual Aid Association agreement with Van Buren and Sumpter and to approve the attorney's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Supervisor:** No report.

**10. Board Response**

**11. New Business:**

**A.** Motion by Hamm, supported by Swinson to advertise for bids on new fire truck. Motion carried unanimously.

**B.** Motion by Hamm, supported by Bates to approve to rescind prior board action on firefighter Patricia Wasilewski-Vance and Scott Rhodes. Motion carried unanimously.

**C.** Consider approval to accept the retirement of Patricia Wasilewski-Vance and Scott Rhodes from the fire department. Motion carried unanimously.

**D.** Motion by Swinson, supported by Bates to approve the resignation with regrets of Assessor Susan Iott-Garrison. Motion carried unanimously.

**E.** Motion by Hamm, supported by Bates to approve to close the township hall for the holidays from December 23, 2013 thru January 1, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

**F.** Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to approve to sign contract for municipal and community credits for SMART matching funds \$9,386.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. Announcements**

**13. Open Floor**

**14. Adjournment:** Motion by Swinson, supported by Bates to adjourn at 6:49 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on October 22, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: November 28, 2013

## Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



**Lisa R. Sullivan, PA-C, PhD**, is the owner of **Puro Medicine Naturopathy and Homeopathy**, located at **510 Main Street** in Downtown Belleville. Sullivan offers Holistic Health Care using natural medicines and solutions and could quickly find the right natural solutions for your needs with state-of-the-art tools to identify issues. To learn more visit her website at [www.puromedicine.com](http://www.puromedicine.com) and call (734) 716-5588.

\*\*\*

**Main Street Flowers & Gifts** in Downtown Belleville is offering a last-minute Thanksgiving centerpiece with a candle for \$19.99. Call (734) 697-7400 to order one for quick pick up or delivery.

\*\*\*

The holidays are finally in full swing with Thanksgiving on Thursday, the official kickoff to the Christmas season. Belleville's own Winter Fest is a week from Saturday, too, and the **Belleville Area Museum** is already open for its **Festival of Holiday Trees** and the **Silent Auction** which ends Dec. 10. Visit [www.buyitinbelleville.com](http://www.buyitinbelleville.com). Don't forget to shop and dine local during **Small Business Saturday**, Nov. 30.

\*\*\*

The public is invited to the 70th birthday party to celebrate the **Yankee Air Force Museum's B-25 Yankee Lady** on Dec. 8, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the museum at **Willow Run Airport**. There's no entrance fee and no gifts, please. Light refreshments will be available as well as a short program, handouts, and other surprises. Call (734) 483 5076.

\*\*\*

The **Belleville Martial Arts Institute** on Sumpter Road in the Secretary of State Plaza is offering a special holiday offer of a \$78 start-up cost, pay nothing until Feb. 1, then only \$58 per month thereafter. The offer also gets you a free uniform. For details, call **Josh Turner** at (734) 391-8615 or [www.bellevillemartialarts.com](http://www.bellevillemartialarts.com).

\*\*\*

A holiday shout out and a Belleville welcome to my twin sister Debbie and

Maurice who are arriving to spend Thanksgiving at home this year. And don't forget to catch the **Belleville High School Marching Band** as they participate in the Detroit Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday morning.

\*\*\*

The **Belleville Chamber of Commerce's** children's coloring book will be going to press this week and this year's book will have drawings from Belleville artist **Rhonda Dutton** and her group of local artists, featuring pictures of the Belleville and surrounding areas. Okay, I have a few pages in there, too. Be sure your child gets one from Santa, beginning Dec. 7.

\*\*\*

*Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych with your suggestion at 734-699-9020. There is no charge to be in this column.*

## VBT Clerk Wright teaches voting skills to BHS, Haggerty students

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, Van Buren Township Clerk Leon Wright took his lessons on voting and the importance of active participation in the community to civics classes at Belleville High School.

On Thursday, Nov. 21, he brought his program to Haggerty School to assist Adult Special Services students in navigating through the voting process.

Clerk Wright said his program introduces students to:

- The voter registration process;
- Ballot instruction and marking;
- Voting cycles in Michigan;
- Absentee ballot requirements; and
- Voting assistance at the polls.

During this interactive presentation students will be introduced to the voting process and will be provided samples of common election forms.

Clerk Wright thanks Eve Wright, Van Buren Public Schools Special Services instructor, for inviting him to bring this opportunity to her students and also, Belleville High School, for allowing him to address its students.

## Upcoming Meetings

• Monday, Dec. 2 -- Van Buren Township work-study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Dec. 3 -- Van Buren Township board meeting, 7 p.m., includes public hearing on 2014 budget.

• Wednesday, Dec. 4 -- Van Buren Township Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

• Monday, Dec. 9 -- Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS

Commons

• Tuesday, Dec. 10 -- VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, VBT Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, Dec. 11 -- Van Buren Township Cemetery Advisory Committee, 11:30 a.m. Also, VBT Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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# Ernie Tozer suggests, again, VBT allowing 'real-time' discussions

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

At the end of a brief Van Buren Township regular meeting on Nov. 19, Ernie Tozer got up to address the board on the proposed budget and the way the agenda has been laid out to keep residents from "real-time" discussions of issues.

With public comment allowed on agenda items only before they are discussed by the board, "We have no knowledge of the details of requests or the board's position." He said he would prefer the public be allowed to offer comments during discussion and before the board votes.

"It's been over two months since my last request for 'real-time' discussion by the public," Tozer said.

Tozer referred to details of the proposed budget he read in the newspaper. Since the budget workshop was not put on cable television, the newspaper reports were the only way the public heard of the details presented.

Tozer said it was announced in the newspaper report that the finances were 7% over budget for 2014 and it was suggested all departments cut 7% or even up to 10%.

He said Supervisor Linda Combs was quoted as saying, "You can't cut your way out of this mess. You have to generate more revenue."

Tozer said three part-time positions were upgraded to full time and one position was upgraded to deputy supervisor. He spoke of money being moved from one line item to another to cover the upgrades.

Tozer mentioned the signing bonuses given to salaried personnel with the decision being made by the three full-

time elected board members, "unilaterally, without board input."

He spoke of the full-time Human Resources person that is wanted by the clerk. Then, there is longevity pay for people who should just be glad they have a job.

Supervisor Combs said there is no extra money spent, there is no deputy, no raises given.

"We have several things staring us in the face, such as the bond for Visteon," Tozer said. "If something happens to the landfill, this township would be bankrupt."

Combs said the township has people working on the Visteon bond and, "We are not operating at a deficit. We're deciding how much to take from the landfill fund ... We've been doing that for 12 years."

"Nobody says we're OK," Tozer replied. "We're 7% over ... We've got our hand in the cookie jar ... You're writing checks out of my checkbook."

Clerk Leon Wright said he respects Tozer's opinion, but, "We are not in a deficit ... the landfill fund is a source of revenue ... The issue is, how much to use ... We don't get enough revenue money to balance our budget ... since 1994 we've been using landfill funds to balance the budget."

Tozer said he didn't make up the 7%, "It's in the paper." He suggested the board be a little more careful of what they say.

"Lay people are listening to you ... I'm not making this stuff up," Tozer said, adding the board appears to be figuring out how far to reach into the cookie jar.

Harry Rosech said he wanted to support

Tozer, saying it's not just that they're into the cookie jar, but they're taking out more than is going in and there will be a day of reckoning.

## Cobblestone Ridge Estates

Following Tozer at the end of the meeting was Julianne Chard, who introduced herself as president of the Cobblestone Ridge Estates Homeowners' Association.

She said people have told her they have heard on the street, at the hardware store, that the township is considering changing its Planned Residential Development (PRD) agreements and this is a great concern.

She said one third of the money from the manor at the front of the development has not been paid to the homeowners' association, as agreed, which puts them \$20,000 in arrears. The developers are using the cash to take liens off the basements built and that have gone back to the county for nonpayment of taxes since 2006.

She said quite a few properties are in foreclosure.

"Wayne County now owns those empty basements, which have been sitting empty since 2005, 2006," she said, noting there is fencing around them and cattails growing in them. She said the basements are derelict and should be demolished. She suggested the township petition the county to demolish them.

Chard said she wants to know why there are no performance bonds, why they have been cancelled. When she asks for Freedom of Information Act access to the paperwork, she is denied for "client-attorney" privilege.

"Many of my neighbors paid full prices for their properties and they have a lot to lose," she said.

Chard said the developers have 50 other developments across the state and this is only one of the many LLCs they have.

She said there is no performance bond on \$200,000 worth of paving and VBT continues to let him pull permits. She said homeowners are afraid "when he walks" that they will have to pay for the paving themselves.

"When you change the PRD, have homeowners sign off on it, 100%," she recommended to the board.

Tracy Herold, secretary of the homeowners' association, said, "As a taxpayer, I hope you will listen when we call, send somebody out."

She said you can always tell the developer

doesn't care, but she hopes somebody is paying attention.

Combs said the township attorney is working on an agreement with the developer. She said the township staff is working to solve the problems and, "Unfortunately, things take time."

In other business at the Nov. 19 meeting, the board:

- Approved the second reading and adoption of the rezoning of a parcel at 45109 S. I-94 Service Drive from R-1B (Single Family Residential) to C-1 (General Business) to make way for the retention pond for the proposed Tucker Insurance building next door;

- Approved the \$14,000 easement acquisition at 12249 Ryznar Drive so a sanitary lift station can be installed;

- Removed from the agenda the proposed Consent Judgment between the township and Victoria Park, LLC, for completion of Victoria Park subdivision, a former Planned Unit Development (PRD). The revised agreement from the VBT attorney is slated to be on the Dec. 2 work/study agenda and the Dec. 3 regular agenda;

- Approved Resolution 2013-20 to be submitted with the SAW (Stormwater, Asset Management and Wastewater) \$700,000 grant application to the State of Michigan Department of Environment Quality;

- Approved a lease agreement between VBT and Wayne Disposal for the Beck ball field for \$1 a year for 99 years. In 2009 VBT entered into a host community agreement with Wayne Disposal and as part of this agreement and upon receipt of its TSCA (Toxic Substance Control Act) permit, Wayne Disposal will lease the ball fields to the township. Wayne Disposal will continue to pay the property taxes;

- Approved award of federal Community Development Block Grant funding for improvements to the Beck ball field. The three contracts for phase 1 work are: \$111,775 to Sole Building for new dugouts; \$23,038 to Davenport Brothers for new fencing on Field #7; and \$52,621.09 to Superior Play for playground equipment. Over \$48,790 of 2009 CDBG funds must be spent by the end of the year or returned to Wayne County;

- Approved The SMART 2014 Municipal Credit Contract, estimated at \$20,000 for Recreation Transportation and \$8,348 for Senior Transportation, for a total of \$28,348. Local match of \$32,597 is met by the VBT general fund and in-kind services; and

- Approved the 2014 VBT Holiday Schedule of 13 holidays and the 2014 Board of Trustees meeting schedule, with only one meeting held in the months of January, August, and November. Otherwise, regular meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, with the work/study session at 4 p.m. the day before.

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**ISSHINRYU KARATE**

## Understanding the Law




By Jason Goldman, Esq.  
and Bryan Suliman, Esq.

Goldman Suliman, PLLC, is a Belleville law firm that was started by Jason Goldman and Bryan Suliman in order to serve the Belleville-area community. In this and future articles we will be covering legal issues commonly faced by Belleville-area residents. Our goal is to help you better understand the law.

The night before Thanksgiving is commonly known as the biggest "bar night" of the year, therefore we find it appropriate to discuss the drunk driving laws. For those of you who intend on drinking tonight, pay extra close attention.

In Michigan it is a crime for a driver to have a bodily alcohol content (BAC) of .08 or greater if over the age 21 or .02 or greater if under 21. In addition, Michigan has a high-BAC law ("Super drunk") with increased penalties for anyone caught driving with a BAC of .17 or above. However, drivers can be arrested at any BAC level if they exhibit signs of impairment while operating a motor vehicle.

If your BAC is below .17 and if it is your first offense you can be sentenced up to a \$500 fine, 93 days in jail, 360 hours of community service, 180-day license suspension, and 6 points on your driver's license. If your BAC is .17 or above and it is your first offense you can be sentenced up to a \$700 fine, 180 days in jail, 360 hours of community service, up to one year license suspension, 6 points on your driver's license, mandatory completion of an alcohol treatment program, ignition interlock use installed in your motor vehicle, and limited driving privileges. Furthermore, convicted drunk drivers have to pay driver's responsibility fees to the State of Michigan that can total as high as \$2,000.

A drunk-driving conviction cannot be expunged from your criminal record. It will follow you everywhere. To avoid a drunk-driving arrest and the costs associated with such an arrest designate a sober driver before consuming alcohol; call a cab, a friend, or walk home.

If you would like further information regarding this issue, or any other issues that you are having, please contact us at (734) 699-7360.

**GOLDMAN | SULIMAN, PLLC**  
ATTORNEYS

287 INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE  
BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111  
TELEPHONE (734) 699-7360  
FAX (734) 699-7365

"The fact that man knows right from wrong proves his intellectual superiority to other creatures; but the fact that he can do wrong proves his moral inferiority to any creature that cannot."  
- Mark Twain

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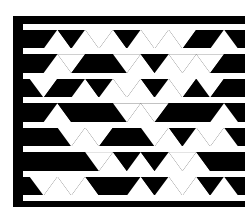
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## PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.





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SIAMESE CAT, long haired, tanish, beautiful blue eyes. Found Nov. 10th vicinity Sumpter & Harris Rds. (734) 697-2182 12/05

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MEN'S PRESCRIPTION GLASSES. Urgently Needed. Please call (734) 697-7805 12/12

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"Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising."  
*Mark Twain*

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WANTED - ROOMMATE to share Apt. Single female over 30 preferred. No smoke or drink. Ask for Cherie. Call before 12 noon. (734) 308-8569 11/28

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## HELP WANTED

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**There's a good chance we're right in your neighborhood. We're looking for Direct Care Assistants to support persons we serve in their homes in the Belleville & Romulus communities.**  
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**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

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**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

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**Caring, mature, enthusiastic people needed to work with women who have disabilities. Part time call-ins could lead to full time. Will train the right person. \$7.90/hr. to start with paid for training. Please call (734) 461-2204**

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PART TIME ON-SITE Maintenance, own tools required. To apply, contact Cathy Gilstorff at (734) 699-2066, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., T-Fri. 11/28

## HELP WANTED

## Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected calls for VBT Police.*

**Sunday, Nov. 17:**  
0209 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Grove  
0317 – assault & battery, 10743 Oak Ln.  
0902 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Jackson  
1143 – private property accident, 9701 Belleville, Meijer  
1214 – malicious destruction of property, 10915 Belleville

1412 – assault & battery, Belleville/Ecorse  
1803 – property damage accident, 6418 Western  
1820 – property damage accident, Denton/Cross  
1910 – property damage accident, Beck/Ecorse  
1943 – property damage accident, 42871 Tyler Rd.  
2012 – fraud, 2095 Rawsonville, Kmart  
2059 – wires down, 42430 Savage  
2136 – traffic hazard, Hancock/Michigan Ave.

**Monday, Nov. 18:**  
0521 – larceny from auto, 13872 Country Walk  
0957 – suspicious situation, Range  
1109 – suspicious situation, 7628 Lacy Dr.  
1151 – private property accident, Walmart  
1515 – property damage accident, Belleville/I-94  
1736 – juvenile complaint, Southport Apt.  
1822 – assault & battery, 47207 Ecorse Rd.  
1923 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.

**Tuesday, Nov. 19:**  
0747 – fraud, 10638 Oak Ln.  
0844 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275  
0956 – child abuse, 40218 Alden Ave.  
1110 – private property accident, Meijer  
1114 – larceny, 6301 Briarwood Dr.  
1145 – larceny, 41455 S. Bellridge Dr.  
1150 – private property accident, 51005 Old Michigan Rd.  
1152 – private property accident, 48741 Denton  
1345 – larceny, 10686 Borgman Ave.  
1509 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / McKinley St.  
1525 – property damage accident, 40543 Alden  
1654 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 49051 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1857 – narcotics crime, 46020 Lake Villa Dr.  
2052 – harassment call, 6820 Anna Dr.

**Wednesday, Nov. 20:**  
0114 – assault & battery, 48521 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0213 – harassment call, 41547 Van Born  
0422 – breaking & entering, 41547 Van Born  
0503 – larceny from auto, 43090 N. Cumberland  
0741 – larceny from auto, 42141 Freeport Ct.  
0919 – hospice, 6294 Jefferson  
0928 – found property, Haggerty/E. Huron River  
1203 – assault & battery, 9724 Sawgrass Ct.  
1555 – disturbance, 47574 Belmont Dr.  
1606 – fraud, 42862 Stratford Dr.  
1836 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Haggerty Rd.  
1951 – property damage accident, EB Ecorse / Denton  
2312 – harassment call, 112 Bedell

**Thursday, Nov. 21:**  
0807 – larceny, 8881 Samuel Barton Dr.  
1631 – water leak found, 9615 Hampton  
1653 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Beck  
1654 – disturbance, 11875 Quirk Rd.  
1702 – assault & battery, 9334 Parkwood  
1707 – personal injury accident, Michigan/Denton  
1740 – larceny, 15803 Hoeft Rd.  
1819 – fraud, 114 Estate Dr.  
1924 – malicious destruction of property, 9295 Parkwood Dr.  
2055 – noise complaint, 9270 Parkwood

**Friday, Nov. 22:**  
0031 – noise complaint, 115 Maple Dr.  
0732 – malicious destruction of property, 9507 Hampton Dr.  
1244 – assault & battery, 49011 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1520 – private property accident, 42350 Van Born  
1609 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Grove  
1726 – fraud, 8682 Ironwood Dr.  
1759 – assault & battery, 45000 Van Born Rd.  
2050 – noise complaint, 17164 Renton Rd.  
2135 – malicious destruction of property, 11801

Meadows Cir.  
2341 – assault & battery, 15 Maple Dr.  
**Saturday, Nov. 23:**  
0128 – assault & battery, 9953 Andover Dr.  
0451 – property damage accident, 11530 Belleville  
0832 – private property accident, 10894 Oak Ln.  
1046 – assault & battery, 85 Rose  
1606 – narcotics crime, 46111 Village Green Ln.  
1719 – fraud, 14280 Winding Pond Dr.  
2047 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2112 – property damage accident, Denton / Michigan Ave.  
2116 – intimidation threat, 48031 S. I-94 Service  
2121 – unattended death, 14158 Pond Bluff Dr.  
Also on this week's log are 207 traffic stops, 51 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Nov. 17:**  
1354 – animal complaint, 223 Belle Villa Blvd.  
1745 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op  
1750 – intrusion alarm, 501 W. Columbia, BHS  
1847 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr. / Madelon St.  
1923 – suspicious vehicle, 201 Third St.  
2045 – property check  
2110 – agency assist, 42430 Savage  
2238 – assist fire dept., 87 Carmell St.

**Monday, Nov. 18:**  
0033 – suspicious person, 103 Carmell St.  
0332 – intrusion alarm, 346 Harbour Pte. Dr.  
0347 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op  
0523 – intrusion alarm, 501 W. Columbia, BHS  
0655 – intrusion alarm, 106 Main St.  
0729 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court  
0815 – assist citizen, Citgo  
0829 – vehicle lockout, Roys St./Main St.  
1005 – traffic complaint, Main St./Third St.  
1136 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court  
1203 – assist fire dept., 500 N. Liberty  
1246 – intrusion alarm, 31 E. Huron River Dr.  
1420 – intrusion alarm, 144 Third St.  
1508 – all other traffic, Main St./Second St.  
2040 – assist fire dept., 279 Church St.

**Tuesday, Nov. 19:**  
0106 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0214 – suspicious situation, Sumpter/Industrial  
0902 – larceny, High St./Roys St.  
0941 – agency assist, 112 Bedell St.  
1517 – warrant arrest, Washtenaw Co. Jail  
1531 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 795 Sumpter  
2053 – domestic assault, 109 Potter Dr.  
2107 – property damage accident, 338 N. Liberty  
2225 – welfare check, 87 Carmell St.  
2344 – welfare check, 34 Potter Dr.

**Wednesday, Nov. 20:**  
0114 – parking complaint, 226 Belle Villa  
0312 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0445 – assist fire dept., 357 E. Columbia Ave.  
0726 – civil matter, 4 Santa Clara St.  
0749 – vehicle repossession, 228 Belle Villa  
1706 – private property accident, 125 W. Columbia Ave.  
1821 – assist citizen, 303 Victorian Ln.  
1930 – assist fire dept., 130 S. Edgemont Ave.  
2109 – suspicious situation, 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court

**Thursday, Nov. 21:**  
0038 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 112 Menlo Park Dr.  
0127 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0419 – information, 6 Main St.  
1259 – juvenile complaint, Rawsonville School  
1546 – civil matter, 136 Biggs Ave.  
2147 – assist fire dept., 35 Carmell St.  
2217 – larceny, 222 Belle Villa Blvd.  
2234 – alarm intrusion, 501 W. Columbia, BHS  
**Friday, Nov. 22:**  
0148 – assist fire dept., 202 N. Aberdeen Ct.  
0500 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0807 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Owen  
1657 – suspicious person, 404 Main St.  
1717 – assist fire dept., 354 Main St.  
1811 – follow up, 493 W. Waterbury Ct.  
2244 – intrusion alarm, 501 W. Columbia, BHS

**Saturday, Nov. 23:**  
1026 – miscellaneous complaint, Denton / Belleville Rd.  
1237 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 549 Victorian  
1345 – welfare check, 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op  
1410 – suspicious person, Chase Bank  
1627 – juvenile complaint, 79 Henry St.  
1831 – intrusion alarm, 501 W. Columbia, BHS  
2142 – vehicle lockout, 509 N. Liberty St.  
Also on this week's log are 47 traffic stops.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Nov. 17:**  
0531 – citizen assist, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.  
0629 – property damage accident, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.  
0920 – 911 hangup, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1018 – animal complaint, Sumpter/Willow  
1035 – warrant arrest, Carriage Lane  
1250 – follow up investigation, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1411 – animal bite, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1717 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1754 – fire dept. assist, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1847 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2002 – felonious assault, Pecan  
2020 – traffic hazard, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2028 – property damage accident, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.

2115 – property damage accident, Harris/Haggerty  
2148 – citizen assist, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2210 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.  
2219 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2236 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2246 – traffic hazard, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2304 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

**Monday, Nov. 18:**  
0001 – follow-up investigation, Pecan  
0303 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0731 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.  
0812 – follow-up investigation, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.  
0933 – alarm, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1004 – malicious destruction of property, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1058 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1059 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane  
1115 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1153 – fraud complaint, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1306 – larceny, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1341 – follow-up investigation, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1741 – family trouble, Haggerty/Willis  
1844 – traffic hazard, Kozma/Sumpter  
1942 – traffic hazard, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.

**Tuesday, Nov. 19:**  
0853 – fire dept. assist, Country Club Blvd.  
1052 – traffic hazard, Karr/Arkona  
1053 – citizen assist, 5900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1227 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1351 – warrant arrest, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1459 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Martinsville  
1555 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2336 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
**Wednesday, Nov. 20:**  
1003 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Martinsville  
1306 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.  
1334 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Fenster  
1427 – fraud complaint, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1515 – threats complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville  
1532 – child abuse/neglect, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1647 – larceny, Country Club Blvd.  
1706 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.  
1729 – mental health commitment, 19000 bl. Karr  
1739 – civil dispute, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1902 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.  
2047 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
2113 – larceny, Country Club Blvd.  
2137 – shots fired, Carleton West/Wear  
2139 – follow-up investigation, Pecan

**Thursday, Nov. 21:**  
0126 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
0933 – alarm, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.  
1117 – citizen assist, Carriage Ln.  
1144 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1241 – citizen assist, Timberlane  
1749 – suspicious person, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1801 – suspicious incident, Sumpter/Willis  
1910 – fire dept. assist, 9800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1955 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Judd

**Friday, Nov. 22:**  
0242 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.  
0937 – warrant arrest, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1103 – well-being check, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1235 – suspicious incident, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1243 – suspicious person, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1335 – follow-up investigation, 19000 bl. Sumpter  
1415 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1429 – warrant arrest, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1616 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1827 – suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1903 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville  
1939 – breaking & entering, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.  
2057 – follow-up investigation, 42000 bl. Willis

**Saturday, Nov. 23:**  
0057 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0238 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
0634 – alarm, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.  
0825 – accidental damage report, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

0848 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1337 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1515 – juvenile complaint, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1553 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.  
1639 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2021 – traffic hazard, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2027 – follow-up investigation, Birch  
2159 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster  
2258 – abandoned vehicle, Oakville Waltz/Clark  
2316 – warrant arrest, out of township  
Also on this week's log are 23 miscellaneous details, 103 patrol checks, and 36 traffic stops.

## Birthday

Dec. 2 – Ed Sienko

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## Court Watching:

# Accused armed robber waives exam, bound over to Circuit Court

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Michael Earl-Chavis Lee, 29, of Lincoln Park, waived his preliminary exam at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court in Romulus on Nov. 20 and was bound over to circuit court.

Lee was arrested Oct. 24 and has been held in the Wayne County Jail facing three counts of armed robbery, one count of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and one charge of weapons-felony firearm.

Thirty-fourth District Court Judge David Parrott ordered Lee to appear at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit at 9 a.m. Nov. 27 for an arraignment on the information.

Lee was apprehended by Van Buren Township Police shortly after the armed robbery of the Health Smart Pharmacy on Belleville Road.

Lee was arraigned on Oct. 26 when Judge Brian Oakley set his bond at \$250,000 or 10%.

Lee's attorney Ronald McDuffie told Judge Parrott that Lee has been unable to raise bond money. He asked for a referral to pretrial services and Judge Parrott ordered it.

Lee's alleged 15-year-old armed accomplice from Inkster was lodged in the

Wayne County Youth Detention Center pending a Family Court hearing.

**Dana Lee Murray**

Dana Lee Murray, 24, on Nov. 20 waived her preliminary exam before Judge Parrott and the judge bound her over to circuit court for arraignment on the evidence on Dec. 4.

Murray was arrested in Belleville on Oct. 3 for malicious destruction of property (\$10,000 or more but less than \$20,000), domestic violence, and assault and battery. Her bond was continued.

Belleville Police Officer Jeffrey Wickham was the officer in charge.

**Deshawntae Shree McGaughy**

A warrant carrying two charges for Deshawntae Shree McGaughy, 29, had been out since her Sept. 11, 2012 attempt to get a controlled substance by fraud and possession of analogues.

Her court-appointed attorney Nicholas Tsalis led her through a plea deal on Nov. 20 in Judge Parrott's courtroom.

She pled guilty to an added misdemeanor, with the original two charges dropped.

Judge Parrott asked her if she took part in the Sept. 11, 2012 attempt to get Vicodin from Rite Aid by impersonation and her attorney stepped in saying that's not what she is pleading guilty to.

Judge Parrott rephrased his question: "Did you have Vicodin in your purse that was not yours?" and she replied, "Yes."

Judge Parrott asked about "7411" and Tsalis said he tried, but they want to leave it up to the judge.

Sentencing under the Michigan Controlled

Substance Act, 7411 allows a first-time offender to have certain conditions and if they are complied with the court will discharge the individual and dismiss the proceedings.

She was sentenced to 12 months of probation at a charge of \$35 a month, has to work four days on the work crew at a charge of \$20 a day, and pay \$150 for her court-appointed attorney, plus other charges. She must attend the substance abuse program one evening and comply with drug testing.

Van Buren Township Police Detective Ken Toney was officer in charge.

For this 2012 case, McGaughy was a co-defendant with Sara Brooke McMillan, 36, and a warrant is still out for McMillan's

## Anton Floyd pleads guilty to 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree Home Invasion

By Diane Madigan  
Independent Court Reporter

In a plea deal on Nov. 20, Anton Lamar Floyd, 30, pled guilty as charged to a 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree Home Invasion on Aug. 4, 2011 on Rustic Lane in Sumpter Township.

The deal does not require Floyd to do any prison time, which could have been 15 years.

Standing mute at the arraignment on the information, Floyd appeared with his court-appointed attorney Rene Cooper before 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court Judge David A. Groner at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

A not-guilty plea was entered by the court. Then the plea was changed to guilty to reflect the plea deal.

Judge Groner commented that the case is almost three years old, asking if Floyd "had skipped." Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Singleton said, "Yes."

Groner said, "Obviously he hasn't had any contact with law enforcement, so he's been doing well." He referred to the warrant for his arrest that has been on the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) since 2011.

After Floyd accepted the plea agreement, Judge Groner asked him a series of questions to establish a factual basis that he committed the crime. Floyd stated that he went through the window on Rustic Lane

and stole an X-box.

Floyd was referred to the Probation Department for a pre-sentence report. Restitution will be decided after checking with the victims. Floyd is scheduled for sentencing on March 4, 2014.

## Jessie Aurelias Williams case assigned for trial to Judge Craig S. Strong

By Diane Madigan  
Independent Court Reporter

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, an arraignment on the information for Jessie Aurelias Williams, 28, of Ypsilanti, held before Judge James R. Chylinski at Third Circuit Court in the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

Williams stood mute with his court-appointed attorney Donald Johnson and a not-guilty plea was entered by the court. A plea agreement could not be reached, so Williams' attorney asked that the case be placed on a trial docket.

Judge Chylinski conducted a blind draw, scheduling the case for a calendar conference before Judge Craig S. Strong, later in the week. An order for production of exam transcript was signed and filed the next day.

Bond was continued at \$25,000 or 10%, which has been posted.

Williams was arrested by Van Buren Township Police Officer Alexander Schulz on Oct. 18 outside the BP gas station at 11175 Haggerty Road. At the preliminary examination Officer Schulz testified he found \$1,400 in cash and a large bag of what he suspected to be crack cocaine in the side pocket and a small amount of marijuana.

Williams is charged with second offenses to two controlled substance laws: possession of cocaine less than 25 grams and possession of marijuana.

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